



Speaker Bosma: "We have a great opportunity before us"

General Assembly Meets to Organize, Reprioritize



STATEHOUSE – House Republicans began the 118th General Assembly with the swearing in of Speaker of the House, Brian C. Bosma (R-Indianapolis) and members of the House of Representatives.

Organization Day is a ceremonial tradition where elected leaders are formally sworn in to uphold the United States and Indiana State Constitution and the Speaker of the House is selected by the members. Chief Justice Brent Dickson administered the oath.

The legislators also elected Caroline Spotts as the Principal Clerk for the House of Representatives.

Today, Speaker Bosma presented his goals and priorities for the upcoming session, which is scheduled to begin January 7, 2013. After all 100 State Representatives were sworn in, including 25 new members of the House, the Speaker took to the podium to deliver a powerful speech.

"We are here, together, in a time of change, a time of transition, a time of unique challenges, a time of unique opportunities. We will no doubt disagree on the details, but it is my hope – my challenge to you – that we can do so

with a renewed spirit of cooperation and work together.”

The Speaker invited Indiana’s entire Congressional delegation to Organization Day. In the audience was Congresswoman-elect Jackie Walorski (R-02), Congressman Marlin Stutzman (R- 03), Congresswoman-elect Susan Brooks (R-05), Congressman-elect Luke Messer (R-06), Congressman Andre Carson (D-07), Congressman Larry Buschon (R-08), and Congressman Todd Young (R-09).

“I know each of you desires our federal government, and your respective parties, to be successful, but when the going gets tough in Washington, as it will, on behalf of all Hoosiers we need our delegation to be peacemakers – to find common ground without compromising principals – to do the hard work of legislating for the benefit of us all,” said Speaker Bosma to Indiana’s Congressional delegation.

“Just like a responsible family, we will sit together at our desks on the House floor and in the committee rooms of this building – and work through the monumental issues facing our state,” stated Speaker Bosma.

Speaker Bosma highlighted the “Own Your American Dream” legislative agenda that House Republicans unveiled in October focusing on fiscal integrity, job creation and education improvement.

In the audience were several families that used the new school choice scholarships program, a bill that was passed during the 2011 session to better address students educational needs.

“The family choice in education opportunities should be considered for early childhood learning opportunities as well,” said Speaker Bosma.

The Speaker closed by stating, “this is much to ask, and in very challenging times, but I firmly believe that out of great challenges come great opportunities – and we have a great opportunity before us today.”

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A full copy of Speaker Bosma’s speech can be found by going to:
http://www.in.gov/legislative/house_republicans/files/org_day_bosma_speech.pdf

A copy of the Own Your American Dream legislative agenda can be viewed at:
http://www.in.gov/legislative/house_republicans/1591.html

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